

REMARKS

Applicants have reviewed and considered the Office Action dated April 6, 2006 and the cited references therein. In response thereto, claims 1, 2, 4, 6, 7, 15, 19, 22, 24, and 25 are amended, and claims 3, 5, 8-14, 18, 21, and 26 are canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. As a result, claims 1, 2, 4, 6, 7, 15-17, 19, 20, and 22-25 are pending.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 1-4, 6-8, 19-20 and 24-26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112. The claims are amended to overcome the rejection.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 6-8, 19-20 and 24-26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Molstad et al. Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection for at least the following reasons.

Independent claim 6, as currently amended, is directed toward a magnetic tape. The magnetic tape comprises, in part, “at least one timing-based servo track.” Molstad does not disclose or teach a timing-based servo track. Rather, Molstad discloses an amplitude-based servo pattern, which is entirely different from timing-based servo tracks as recited. Support can be found on page 1 paragraphs [0003] and [0004] of the present application. Thus, claim 6 patentably distinguishes over Molstad. Claim 7, which depends from claim 6, is also patentable for at least the same reason.

Independent claim 19, as currently amended, is directed toward an apparatus for use in writing servo data. The apparatus comprises, in part, “a terminated portion of the write gap segments being larger than a nonterminating portion of the write gap segments.” Molstad discloses that a writing gap “may include oval shaped terminators on the ends of the gaps.” *Molstad*, col. 23, ll. 48-50. Molstad does not, however, disclose or teach a terminated portion of the write gap segments being *larger* than a nonterminating portion of the writing gap segments. Applicant respectfully submits that it is the Examiner’s hindsight that Molstad discloses or teaches such a feature. Thus, claim 19 patentably distinguishes over Molstad. Claim 20, which depends from claim 19, is also patentable for at least the same reason.

Independent claim 24, as currently amended, is directed toward media made for use in writing servo data. The media comprises, in part, "at least one timing-based servo track." As stated previously, Molstad does not disclose or teach a timing-based servo track. Rather, Molstad discloses an amplitude-based servo pattern, which is entirely different from timing-based servo tracks as recited. Thus, claim 24 patentably distinguishes over Molstad.

Further, Applicant respectfully submits that there is no motivation or suggestion nor is there any incentive in Molstad to provide a magnetic tape or apparatus as recited in the present application. Thus, Applicant respectfully submits that the pending claims patentably distinguish over Molstad. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-4, 6-8, 15-17, 19-20, 22-26 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Dugas et al. (2005/0168869).

Independent claim 1, as currently amended, is directed toward a magnetic tape. The magnetic tape comprises, in part, "at least one slanted magnetic transition, the at least one slanted magnetic transition comprising a series of vertical and horizontal segments." Dugas, rather, discloses apparatuses and methods for pre-erasing servo channels of a magnetic tape. Dugas does not disclose or teach at least one slanted magnetic transition comprising a series of vertical and horizontal segments. The Examiner refers to figures 6 and 7 of Dugas for support. Applicant respectfully submits that the figures do not disclose or teach a series of vertical and horizontal segments. The segmenting shown in the figures of Dugas are the result of digital pixelating in the drawings themselves. There is no support in the detailed description of Dugas that this is an otherwise desired result. As such, Dugas does not disclose or teach the presently claimed invention. That is not to say that the claimed invention could not be adapted for use in combination with the disclosure and teachings of Dugas. Thus, claim 1 patentably distinguishes over Dugas. Claims 2 and 4, which depend from claim 1, are also patentable for at least the same reason.

Independent claim 6, as currently amended, is directed toward a magnetic tape. The magnetic tape comprises, in part, "at least one magnetic transition comprising vertical segments written in a staggered pattern." Dugas does not disclose or teach a magnetic transition

comprising vertical segments written in a staggered pattern. Thus, claim 6 patentably distinguishes over Dugas. Claim 7, which depends from claim 6, is also patentable for at least the same reason.

Independent claim 15, as currently amended, is directed toward an apparatus for use in writing servo data. The apparatus comprises, in part, “one or more write gaps created in the magnetic film, each having a slanted pattern, wherein the slanted pattern of said one or more write gaps comprises a series of vertical and horizontal segments.” As stated previously, the segmenting shown in the figures of Dugas are the result of digital pixelating in the drawings themselves. There is no support in the detailed description that this is an otherwise desired result. Thus, claim 15 patentably distinguishes over Dugas. Claims 16 and 17, which depend from claim 15, are also patentable for at least the same reason.

Independent claim 19, as currently amended, is directed toward an apparatus for use in writing servo data. The apparatus comprises, in part, “at least one slanted pattern created in the magnetic film, wherein said at least one slanted pattern comprises two or more write gap segments arranged in a segmented pattern.” Dugas does not disclose or teach a slanted pattern comprising two or more write gap segments arranged in a segmented pattern. Thus, claim 19 patentably distinguishes over Dugas. Claim 20, which depends from claim 19, is also patentable for at least the same reason.

Independent claim 22, as currently amended, is directed toward a method of writing servo data on a servo track. The method comprises, in part, “writing said data with gaps, each of said write gaps having a slanted pattern which comprises a series of vertical and horizontal segments.” As stated previously, the segmenting shown in the figures of Dugas are the result of digital pixelating in the drawings themselves. There is no support in the detailed description that this is an otherwise desired result. Thus, claim 22 patentably distinguishes over Dugas. Claim 23, which depends from claim 22, is also patentable for at least the same reason.

Independent claim 24, as currently amended, is directed toward media made for use in writing servo data. The media comprises, in part, “at least one magnetic transition including vertical segments written in a staggered pattern.” As stated previously, Dugas does not disclose

or teach a magnetic transition comprising vertical segments written in a staggered pattern. Thus, claim 24 patentably distinguishes over Dugas. Claim 25, which depends from claim 24, is also patentable for at least the same reason.

Further, Applicant respectfully submits that there is no motivation or suggestion nor is there any incentive in Dugas to provide a magnetic tape or apparatus as recited in the present application. Thus, Applicant respectfully submits that the pending claims patentably distinguish over Dugas. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Conclusion

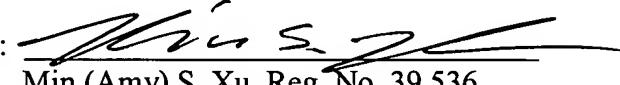
In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance. Reconsideration of the present application and a favorable response are respectfully requested.

If a telephone conference would be helpful in resolving any remaining issues, please contact the undersigned at (612) 752-7367.

Respectfully submitted,

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